

**Washington, DC**-Congressman **Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23)**, a member of the powerful Appropriations Committee today announced that he had secured

**\$712,000**

for the purchase of new buses in El Paso County and

**\$100,000**

for the Horizon Police Department to make equipment improvements as the city continues to expand. "As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I am proud to have worked to secure funding for projects in El Paso County, Horizon City and other communities throughout my vast district," said Rodriguez. "This year we'll bring home money for buses that will allow people better, reliable access to get to and from work and for the Horizon Police so they can continue to keep our children and families safe."

El Paso County will use the \$712,000 to purchase replacement vehicles for the El Paso County Rural Transit System where service is provided Monday through Saturday.

The El Paso County Rural Transit System presently serves the cities, towns or areas of Anthony, Westway, Vinton, Canutillo, Montana Vista, Horizon City, El Paso Community College Mission Del Paso Campus, Sparks, Agua Dulce, Tornillo, Fabens, Clint, Socorro, San Elizario and the Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo with fixed-route commuter bus service to and from four Sun Metro transfer locations within the city limits of El Paso.

More funds from the \$410 billion omnibus 2009 Appropriations bill are expected to be announced that will benefit the El Paso area. The bill will provide funding for state and local law enforcement, crime prevention programs and a number of other items that include mainly domestic priorities.

"As El Paso County and Horizon City grows with the expansion of Fort Bliss, it is my hope that we can help to provide reliable infrastructure including public transportation and safety," Rodriguez continued.

The omnibus funding bill for 2009 is expected to pass the House and Senate this week and be sent to the President for his signature. It is the annual spending bill for Congress and is not tied to the American Recovery Act passed by Congress earlier this month.

